Free Crayola Pen!

# THOMAS & FRIENDS

Based on The Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry.

THOMAS & FRIENDS

No. 371 £1.40
19th Dec – 1st Jan 2002
Fortnightly

Thomas Token Inside!

Stories Activities Colouring

Really Useful Reading with...

# THOMAS & FRIENDS

## Welcome

... to the world of Thomas and his friends. Thomas is ready to take your child on a special journey of learning and discovery.

Stories and activities involving all your child's favourite Thomas characters encourage active reading and participation, stimulate the imagination and teach basic moral and social issues.

All of the elements in this magazine are based on the findings of academic research.


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a story to read

8. Look and See!
things to spot in a big picture

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a rebus picture story

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ABC

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GULLANE

Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends

A BRITT ALLCROFT COMPANY PRODUCTION

Based on The Railway Series by The Rev W. Awdry

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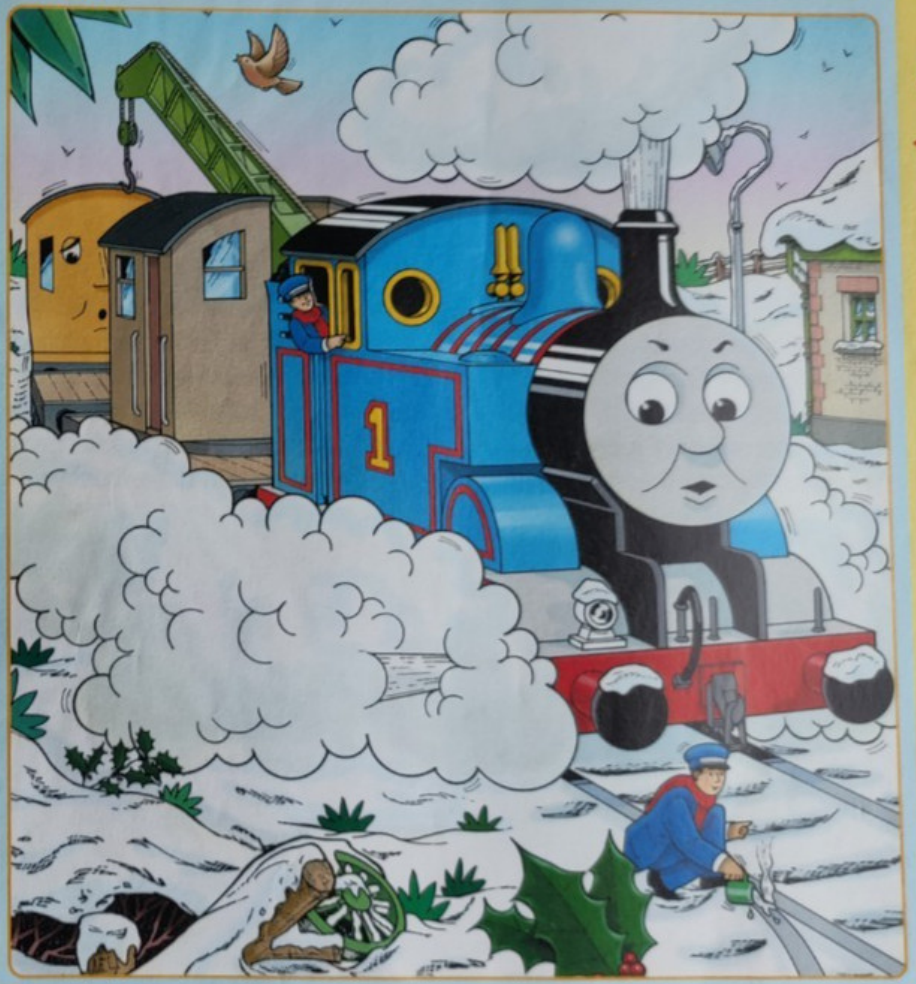
fun to read together

# Jolly George

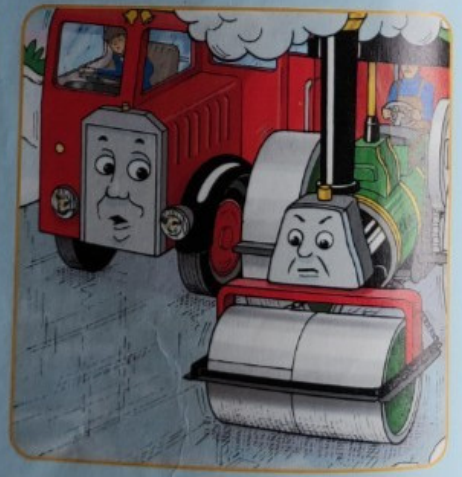


1. It was the day of the engines' Christmas party. Thomas was hoping to get all his work done early. But snow and ice along his branch line were forcing him to go extra slowly.

2. Thomas' wheels kept slipping so much that his driver put sand on the rails to help Thomas get a better grip. His crew also used hot water from the boiler to unfreeze points.

3. While Thomas struggled up a hill, he met grumpy George who was rumbling along the nearby road. "Rip up railways and build roads. That's what I say!" roared the steamroller.

4. Then Bertie the Bus came motoring carefully along. He was delivering some children to the next station. From there, Thomas was to take them to a Christmas show at the theatre.



5. "Perhaps they should go all the way by road or they might be late," called Thomas. "These rails are like a skating rink!" "What did I tell you?" said George. "Roads are best!"

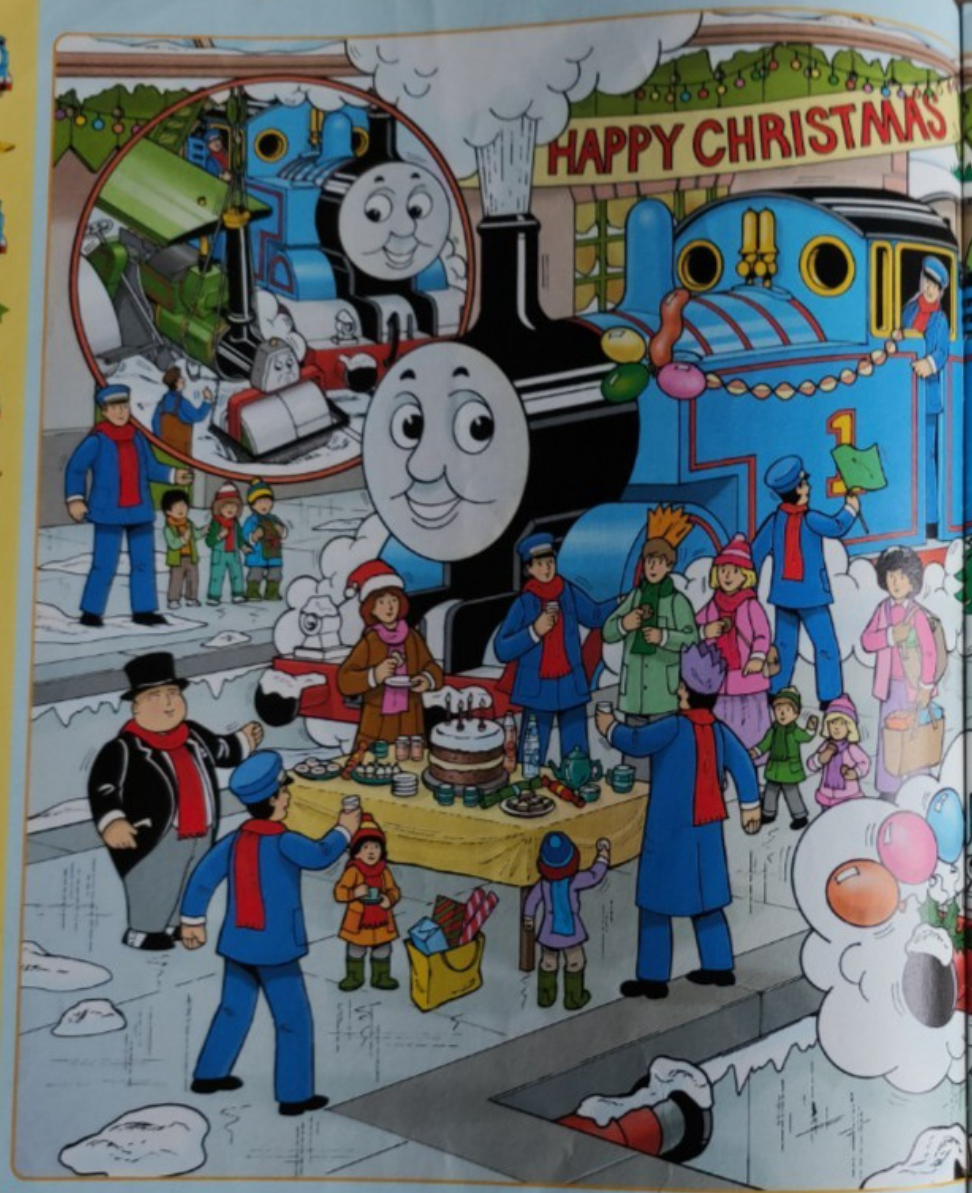
6. Bertie agreed with Thomas. But he only went a little way before ice on the road forced him to stop. "Leave it to me!" snorted George, rumbling closer. "I'll soon crush that ice!"

7. "Oh, be careful!" warned Bertie. "Mind your roller doesn't slip and slide like my wheels!" added Thomas. "It's much too heavy. Stop fussing and watch me work!" replied George.

8. He clattered noisily past Bertie onto the icy section of road. But, next moment, the steamroller skidded out of control. "Don't say we didn't try to warn you," puffed Thomas.

9. George couldn't stop. He crashed through some railings and slid down an embankment. At last, he came to a halt beside the railway track. "Ooer! What happened?" he groaned.

10. "You were showing off, that's what!" replied Thomas. But he was relieved to see the steamroller was still in one piece. "I'm stuck!" protested George. "Please help me!"



11. Thomas was pulling a flat truck and crane as well as his carriages. "I'll give you a lift," he grinned. Luckily, George had broken enough ice for Bertie to drive on safely.

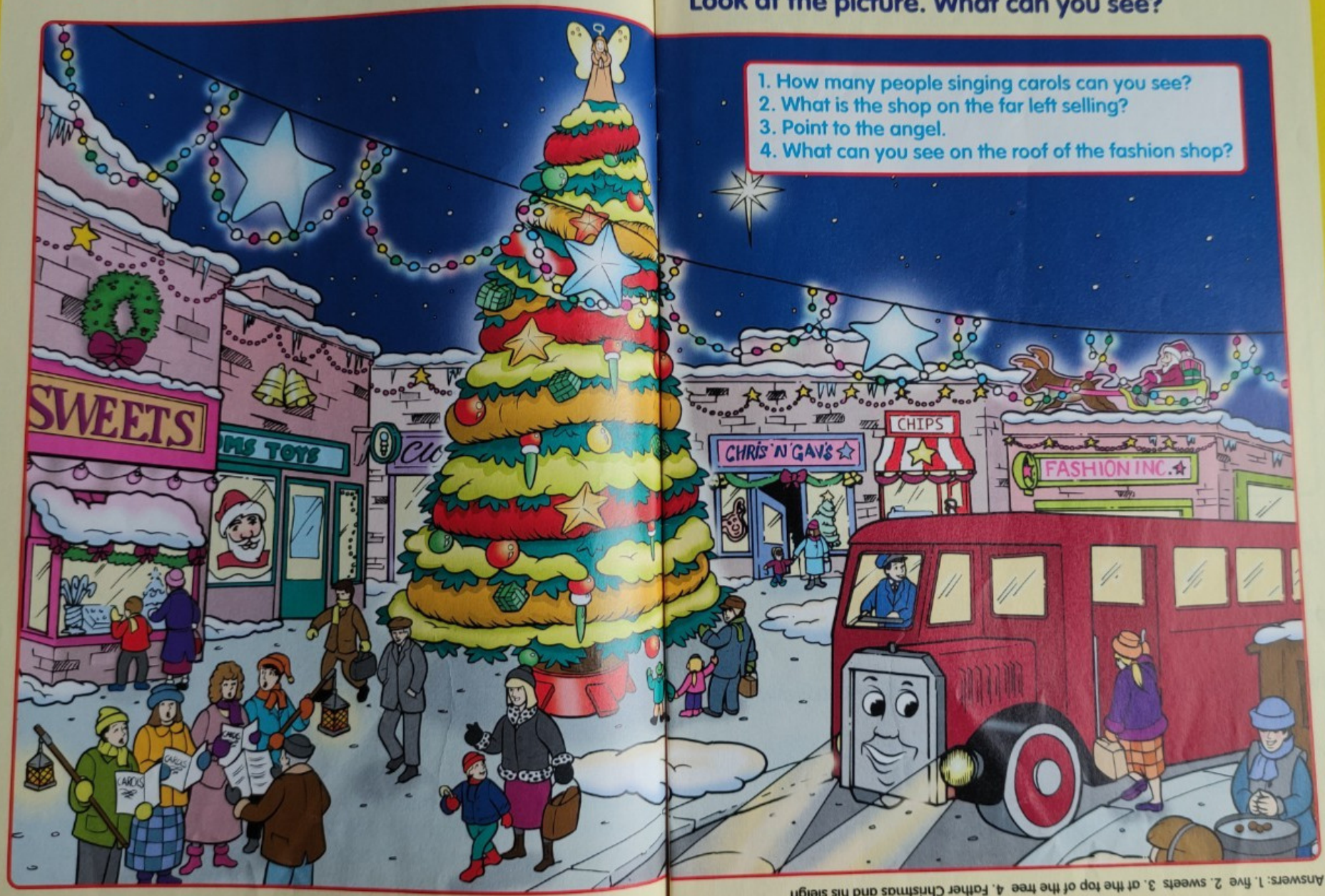
12. "Happy Christmas, you two!" the bus called. It took Thomas a long time to rescue George. "You'll have to come back to the Main Station or I'll miss the party," smiled Thomas.

13. George had no choice. The other engines stared in amazement when he arrived. But George joined in all the fun. Balloons were tied onto him and he was given a big party hat.

14. "Go on! Admit it! Railways aren't so bad!" teased Thomas. "As this is the season of goodwill, I'm on my best behaviour," grinned George. "But I'll be twice as grumpy next year!"

**The End**

# Look and See!




**Bertie is taking people late-night shopping! Look at the picture. What can you see?**

1. How many people singing carols can you see?
2. What is the shop on the far left selling?
3. Point to the angel.
4. What can you see on the roof of the fashion shop?

Answers: 1. five 2. sweets 3. at the top of the tree 4. Father Christmas and his sleigh

rebus story

# A Real Log Fire!

**Trace over the words below. Then read the story, when you see a picture say the word!**

The words made into pictures are...

Henry

trees

log-car

branches

chainsaw

axe

logs

truck

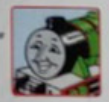
coal

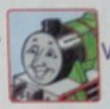
petrol

tender

One afternoon, was busy in the forest. were being felled and trunks were being loaded onto his . One worker was cutting up thick with a and another was splitting the rounds of wood with an . "Don't bust your boiler," peeped , "that looks like hard work!" The worker looked up and threw some into a spare



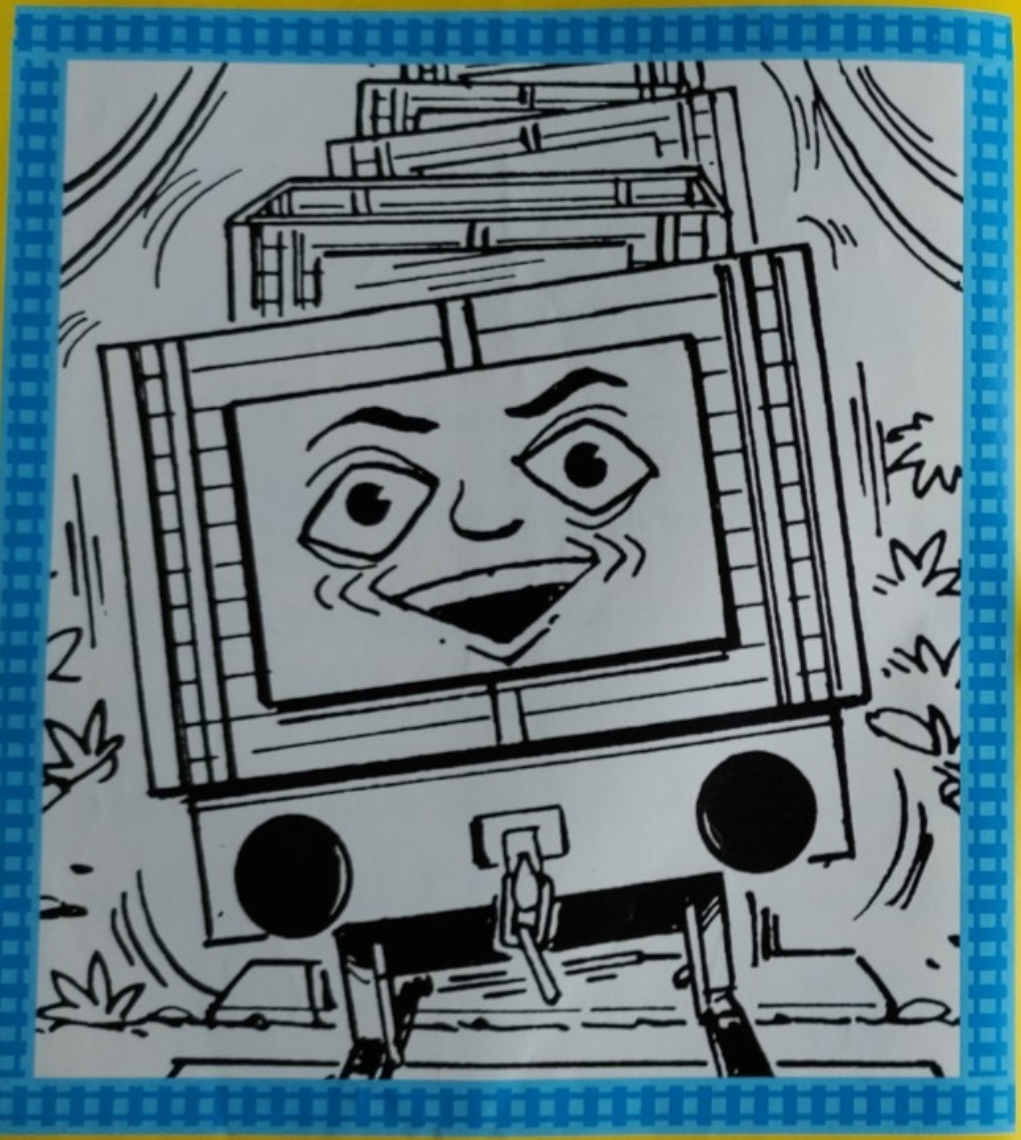
that had brought. "It's hard work, but worth it. You can't beat a real fire!"  frowned, "Yes, you can. I have a real fire!"

The man with the came over to cut more wood. The made a loud buzz. "Do you mind, we're trying to talk!" exclaimed . Just then, the made a funny noise and stopped. "Bother, it's run out of !" the man said. grinned. Henry's driver wasn't pleased with him. "We've all been so busy chatting, your fire has gone down!" "You won't believe this," began Henry's fireman, "the is empty!"  wailed, "How will I get home without ?" The man with the started to throw up to Henry's fireman, "Ha! You need a real fire!" he exclaimed and they all laughed!

The End

# Colouring Fun

Colour in this splendid picture with your brightest pens.






## Day out with Thomas

Don't miss the next Thomas day out nearest you!

| | |
|---|---|
| December 22-23 | Didcot Railway (Oxon) Tel: (01235) 817200 |
| December 26 -Jan 6 | Eastleigh Lakeside Railway (Swanage, Dorset) Tel: (02380) 636612 |
| February 9-19 | Kent and East Sussex Railway Tel: (01580) 765155 |
| February 9, 10, 11 and 13 | Churnet Valley Railway Tel: (01538) 360522 |
| February 14-17 | Great Central Railway Tel: (01509) 230726 |
| February 9-24 | National Railway Museum Tel: (01904) 621261 |

Please note: Some of the above railway telephone numbers may be a talking timetable or may require you to leave a message.

Day out with Thomas hotline
Tel: (0870) 2412532

www.thomasthetankengine.com

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THOMAS & FRIENDS

Don't miss the new Play and Learn Thomas & Friends!

Packed full of activities, games and puzzles!

On sale every fortnight.

# Story puzzle

Write the numbers of these pictures below to show which order they should go in. Then tell the story yourself.

1

Too late! Toby was left hanging over the edge of the river!

2

"Don't worry," said Mavis, "I'll pull you to safety!"

3

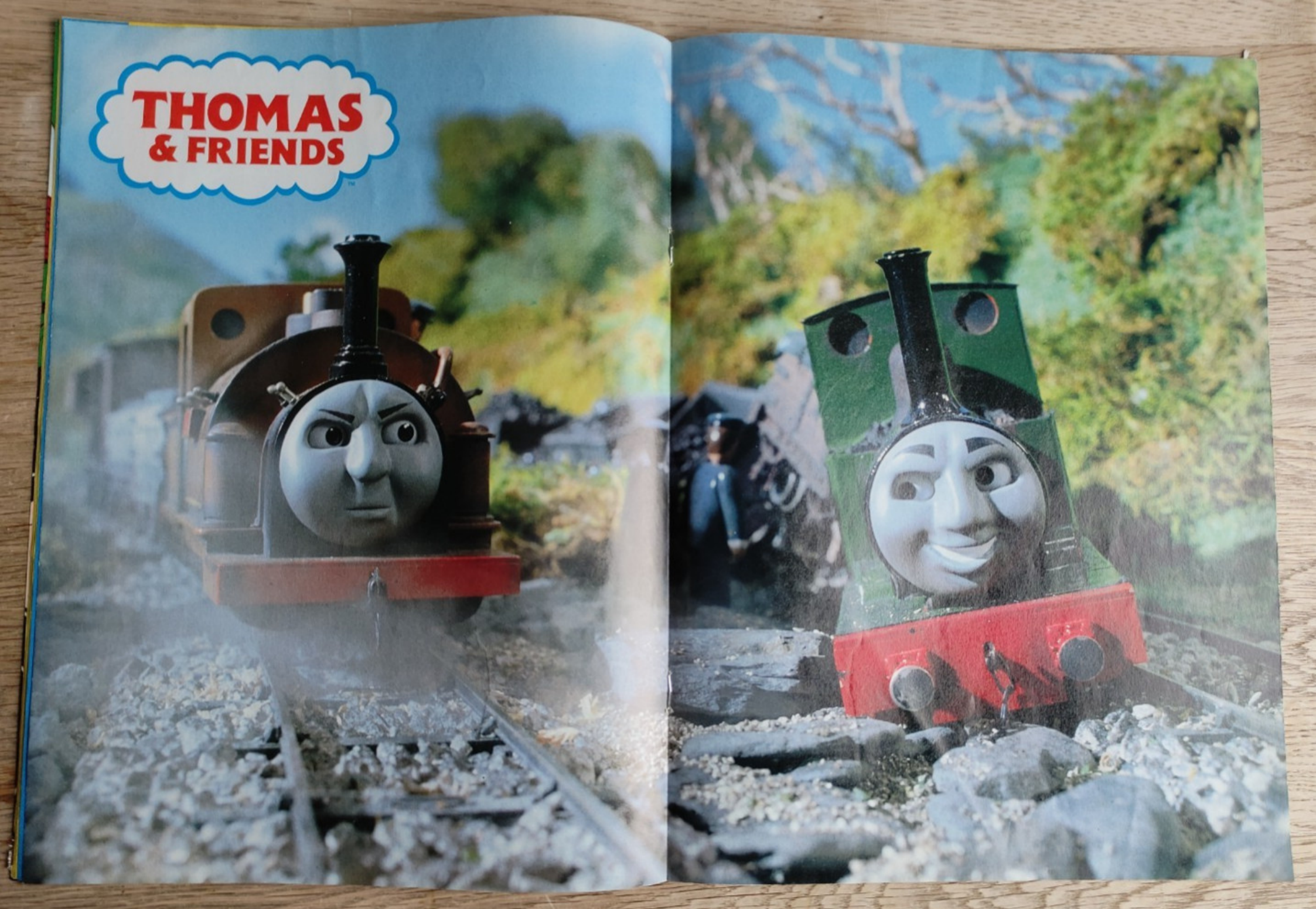
One Winter's day, a Troublesome Truck gave Toby a mighty push!

4

"Stop it!" he cried. "I'm heading towards a rickety old bridge!"

**The right order is** ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

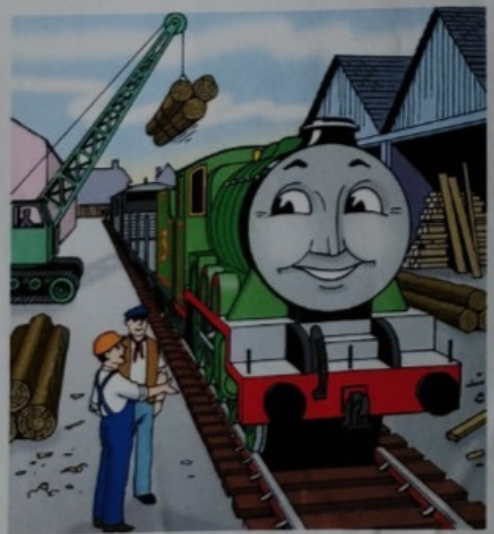
ANSWER: 3, 4, 1, 2


THOMAS
& FRIENDS

Thomas' rhyme time

# Henry's Game

1 Henry set off for the sawmill,
Pulling his special log car,
The timber he carried was heavy,
Hissed Henry, "I'm glad it's not far!"



2 He arrived and the car was unloaded,
The manager called, "Very good!"
"Play a game when you go," he told Henry,
"Count things that you find made of wood!"

3 "Let's all play," agreed Henry's driver.
"Number one is that shed," called the guard.
"Number two is a fence," spotted Henry,
"I can't say this game is too hard!"

4 Next came the turn of the fireman,
"Number three is a horse," he soon cried.
In a field Henry saw one grazing,
"Sssh! Steady!" he puffed when it shied.

5 "Horses aren't wooden!" laughed Henry.
The fireman chuckled, "Of course!
Not real ones, but in that farm window,
Stands a wonderful toy rocking-horse!"

the end

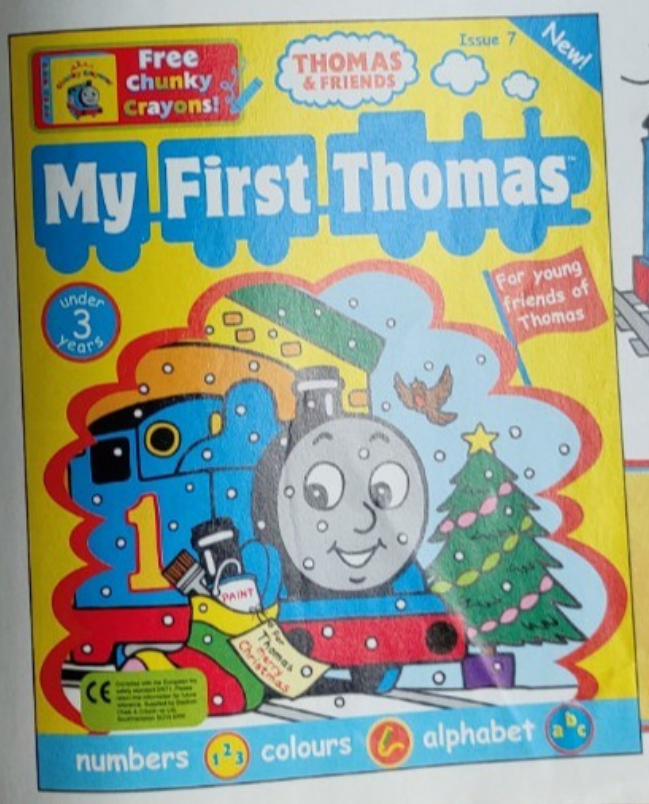


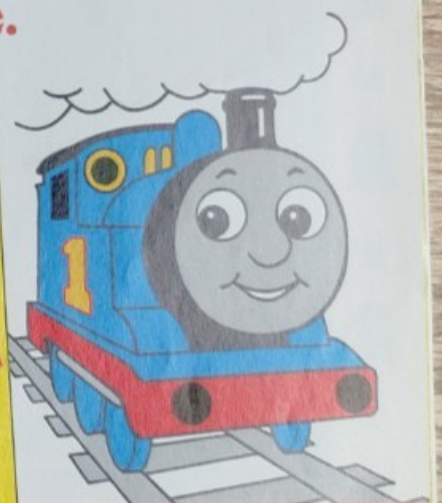
In all good newsagents and supermarkets from
19th December
£1.50

THOMAS & FRIENDS

My First Thomas™

Peep! Peep! Young friends of Thomas,
Are in for a splendid ride.
There's a new Thomas magazine,
Packed full of fun inside.



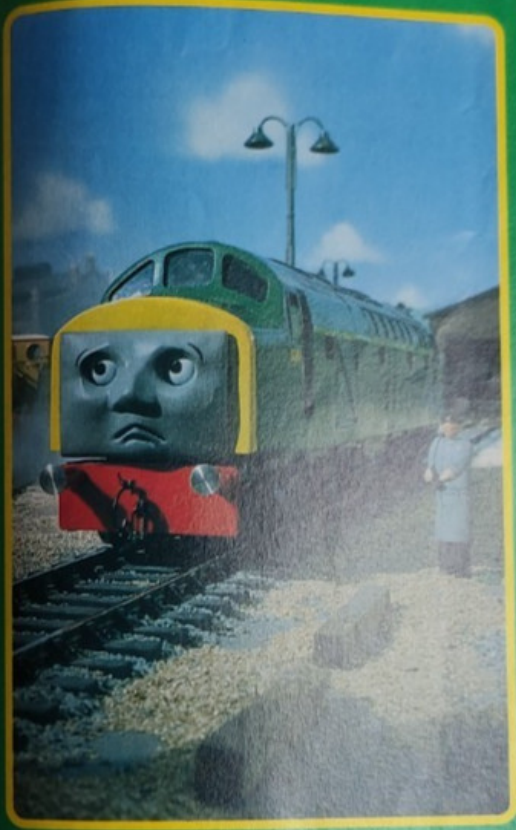



colouring pages
rhyming stories
number rhymes
counting fun

# All about The Diesel

The Diesel, like all diesels thinks he knows it all. This annoys all the steam engines who try to put him in his place. He's also very snooty. Despite his immense power he finds out that steam engines can be Really Useful too!





## Win a model of The Diesel!

10 lucky readers can win a splendid model of The Diesel from the Racing Champions engine range. Just tell us:

**What colour is The Diesel's body?**

Write your answer on a postcard along with your name and address and send it to:

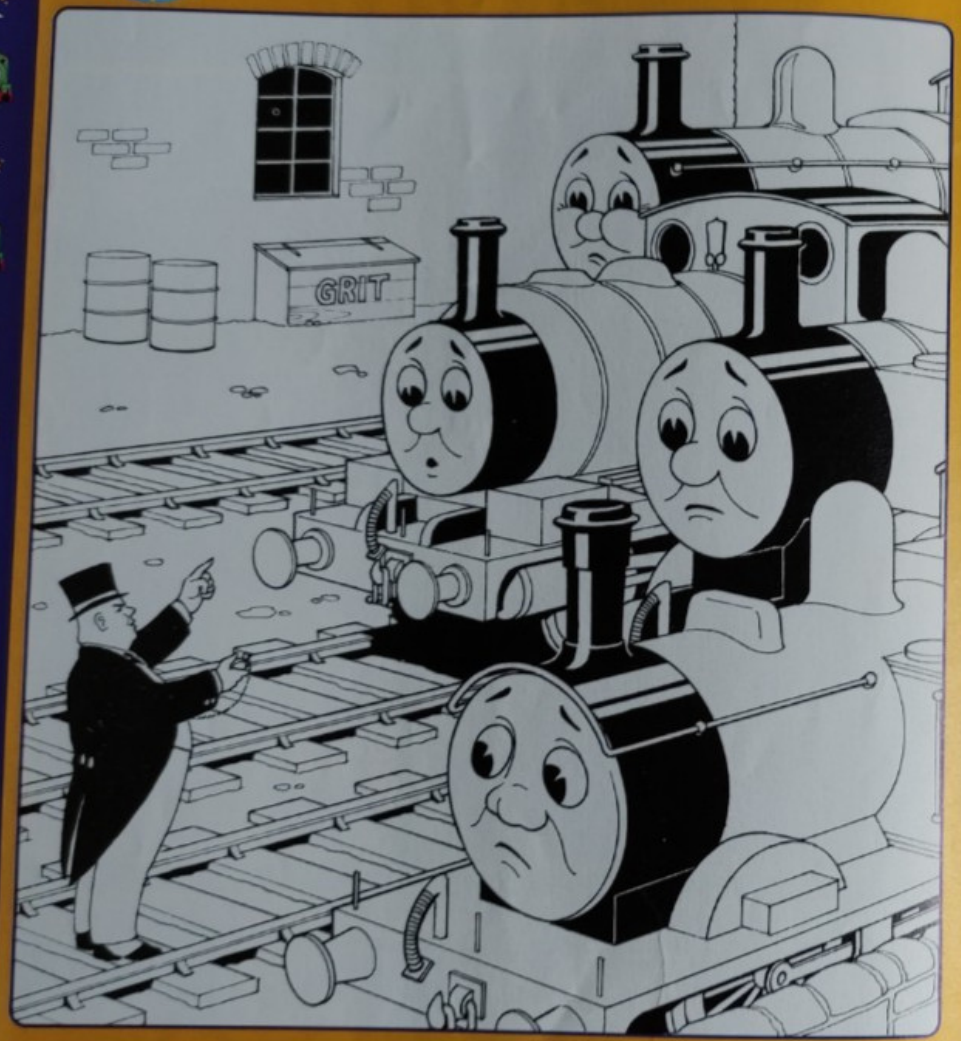
Thomas/371 model competition,
Egmont Magazines Ltd.,
PO BOX 51,
Erith DA8 1WD.

Closing date:
4th January, 2002

**Terms and Conditions:** The competition is open to all Thomas and Friends readers other than employees of participating companies and their immediate families. Please obtain permission from a parent or guardian before entering this competition. Entries are restricted to one winner per household. We cannot accept responsibility for any entries that are lost, delayed or damaged in the post. Proof of posting will not be accepted as proof of delivery. No proof of purchase is necessary. All entries will be entered into a prize draw, where the first 10 entries drawn with the correct answers will be awarded with a model from the Racing Champions engine range. No cash alternative will be offered. The prize draw will supervised by an independent person. The editor's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. The closing date for all entries is 4th January, 2002. Winners will be notified by post one calendar month after this date. For a list of winners, write to the address above and mark your envelope 'Thomas model competition - issue 371'. This competition has been arranged by Egmont Magazines and Racing Champions.

Percy's Read & Colour story

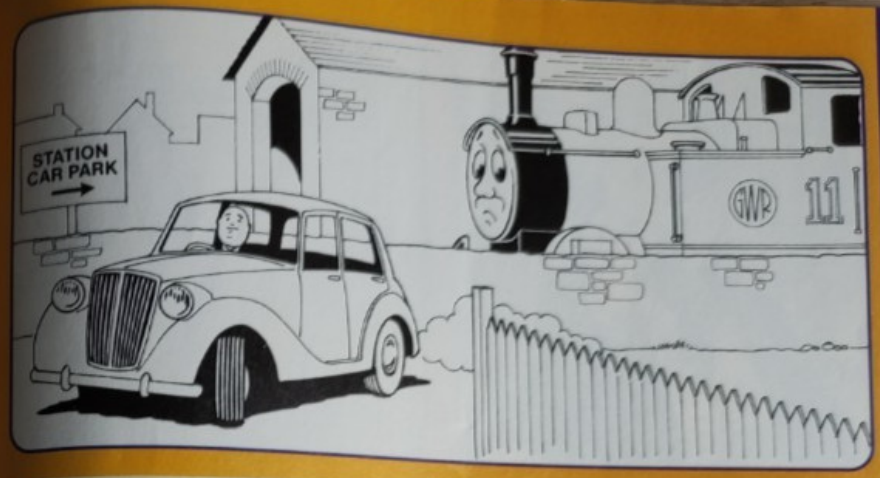
# Early Start




1. After work, Thomas and some of his friends stood gloomily in the Main Station yard. The Fat Controller spoke to them. "I can't have slow engines!" he said.

2. "Really Useful Engines must be very reliable," he went on. "Don't be late again!" It was true. Thomas and the others had all run behind schedule.






3. They watched The Fat Controller walk to his car and drive off home. "Oh, dear! I must try to do better," sighed Oliver, "or I'll be sent away for scrap!"

4. "I kept running out of puff," said Percy. "There was a cow on my line," added Thomas. "But The Fat Controller is right. Tomorrow, we'll be on time!"

5. That night, Thomas could not sleep. He wanted to make an early start in the morning. As soon as it was light, he was ready and waiting for his driver and fireman.

6. Thomas was first into the Main Station yard. Meanwhile, The Fat Controller was leaving home. He had not driven very far when, suddenly, his car broke down.

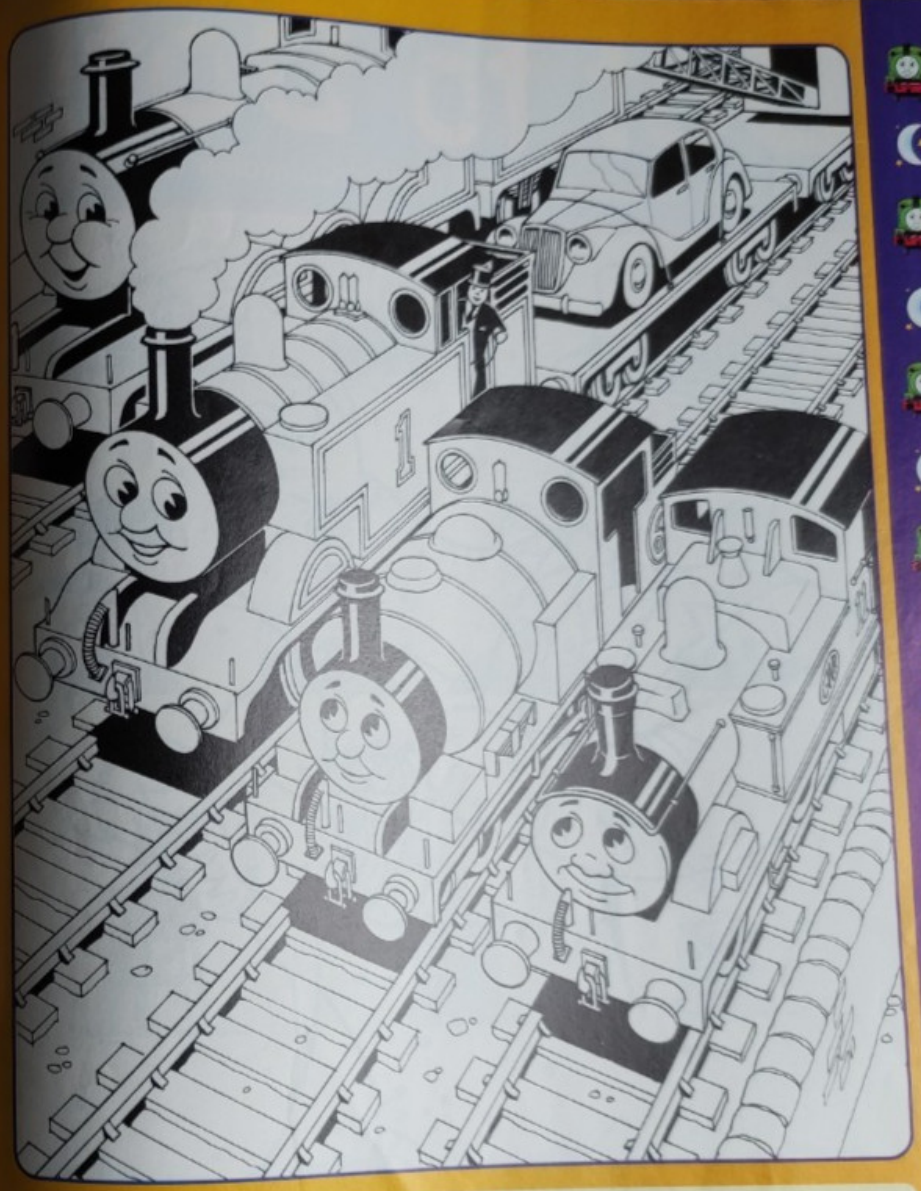
7. Luckily, a telephone box was nearby. The Fat Controller rang the garage for help. But there was no reply. "Oh, no! It's not open yet," he thought. "It's too early."

8. So The Fat Controller called the Main Station. The Stationmaster answered. "Thomas is set for work already," he explained. "I can send him immediately!"

9. Thomas was coupled to a flat truck. He took a crane truck too. Then Thomas steamed urgently on his way. "Leave it to me. I'll rescue The Fat Controller!" he said.

10. The Fat Controller was relieved to see Thomas. Soon the little tank engine used the crane to lift The Fat Controller's car carefully onto the flat truck.





11. Then Thomas hurried to the Main Station.The Fat Controller rode in the engine driver's cab. By now, all the other engines were out in the yard. How they stared!

12. The Fat Controller checked his watch. "Well done, Thomas!" he smiled. "If you hadn't been up really early, I wouldn't have been on time today!"

The End

# Dot to Dot!

Join the dots to find out what The Fat Controller is holding!

Now use your crayons to colour in the picture!



# Odd One Out!

Can you draw a ring around the odd one out in each row?

# Sodor mail

Please send your letters, pictures and drawings to Sodor Mail, Egmont Magazines, 25/31 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9SF

## Thomas Token

Ask an adult to cut out the token for you!

## Star Poem

K. Davison, aged 5, wrote this poem!

I like Thomas because he's blue,
I like Gordon and Edward too.
I like Bertie being red,
But I don't like the trains stuck in the shed.

I like Trevor,
Oh, he's so clever.
But not the trucks,
No, never, never.

Henry is so fine,
Going up and down the branch line,
I also like Daisy,
Because she's not crazy!

If we print your Star letter or rhyme, you will receive a Thomas Starter Set from Tomy as a prize!

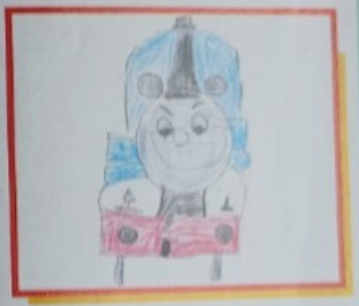
Alexander Hayes, aged 3.

Michael Seery, aged 4.

Here's a great picture of Thomas, by John Ford, aged 5.

Here comes James! This picture was drawn by Anthony Simpson, aged 6.

A splendid picture of Thomas, by Luke James Hendry, aged 5.



Anyone who has a drawing printed on this page will win a Thomas and the Windy Day book from Egmont Children's Books.

## Happy birthday!

To

Matthew Bishop, aged 2.
Robert Foote, aged 5.
Jayden Fletcher, aged 3.
Thomas Jackson, aged 3.
Stewart Hendry, aged 3.
James Munday, aged 3.
Jack Norris, aged 3.
Kalju Ligema, aged 4.
Oliver Beaumont, aged 5.
Matthew Smith, aged 4.
James Clarke, aged 3.
Alexander Hayes, aged 3.
Bailey McQue, aged 3.
Rowan Stoten, aged 5.
Oliver Startup, aged 2.
Oliver Lord, aged 3.

Remember to send in your details 4 months before your birthday to be sure it will be printed on time.

We regret, we cannot guarantee your mention.

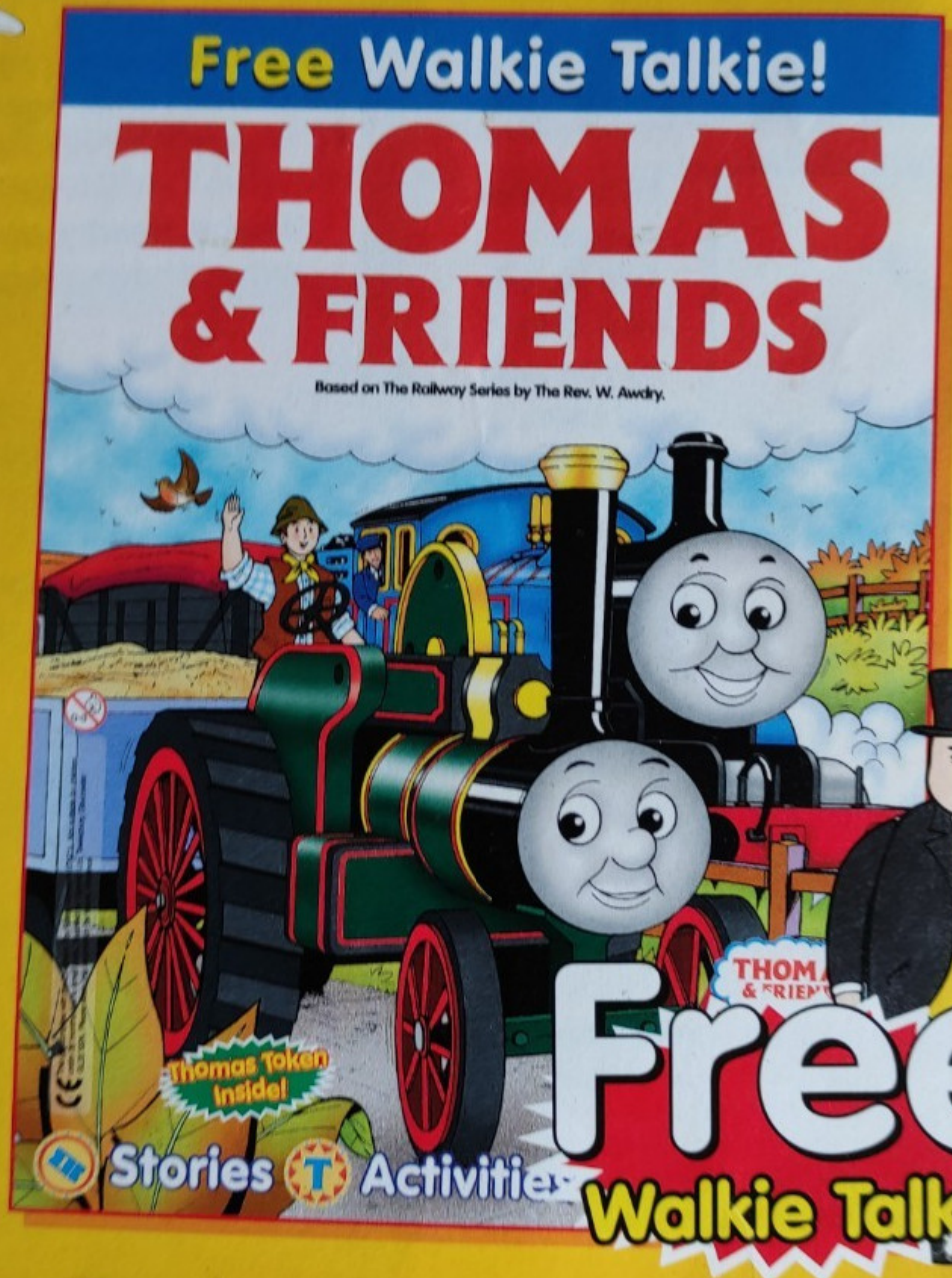
Jamie Sedley, aged 4.

Callum Shaw, aged 4.

Eden (3) & Gabriel (2) Freeman.

Joshua Parker, aged 3.

# Next issue!




Stories to read • Rhymes and songs
Puzzles and activities • Prizes to win
Plus a Thomas token to collect!

Issue 372 on sale from 2nd January 2002!